

## CLAIMS

Accordingly, what is claimed is:

- 5           1. A method of protecting mammalian skin from the harmful effects of tyrosinase and chemically induced radiation comprising applying to skin in need thereof a preparation containing, in weight percent, up to about 5 percent of ethyl p-methoxycinnamate dispersed in a nontoxic, nonirritating cosmetically acceptable carrier.
- 10           2. A method of protecting mammalian skin according to claim 1 in which said carrier is an emulsion.
3. A method of protecting mammalian skin according to claim 1 in which said carrier is an anhydrous solvent.
- 15           4. A method of protecting mammalian skin according to claim 1 in which said carrier is a single phase system.
- 20           5. A method according to claim 1 containing from about 0.1% up to about 5.0% of ethyl p-methoxycinnamate (wt/wt).
6. A method of protecting mammalian skin according to claim 5 in which said carrier is an emulsion.
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8. A method of protecting mammalian skin according to claim 5 in which said carrier is a single phase system.
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9. A method according to claim 1 in which said ethyl p-methoxycinnamate is extracted from Kaempferia Galanga root.

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10. A method according to claim 5 in which said ethyl p-methoxycinnamate is extracted from Kaempferia Galanga root.

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11. A composition consisting of up to 5% by weight of the root extract of Kaempferia Galanga.

12. A composition according to claim 11 containing from about 0.1 to about 5.0 weight percent of the root extract of Kaempferia Galanga.

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13. A composition according to claim 12 containing from about 0.2 to about 1.0 weight percent of the root extract of Kaempferia Galanga.

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